

REMARKS

This responds to the Office Action mailed on April 11, 2007.

Claims 1, 3, 9, 11, 14, 16, 19, and 23 have been amended. Claims 2, 10, and 12-13 have been canceled. No claims are added. As a result, claims 1, 3-9, 11, and 14-23 are now pending in this application.

For the convenience of the Examiner, Applicants' remarks concerning the claims will be presented in the same order in which the Examiner presented them in the Office Action.

Allowable Subject Matter and
Corresponding Amendments to the Claims

Applicants note with appreciation that claim 13 was objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but it was indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Accordingly, independent claim 9 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter previously recited in claims 10, 12, and 13. Thus, claim 9 should be allowable. The dependency of claim 11 has been switched from claim 10 to claim 9.

Similarly, independent claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the following limitations from claims 10, 12, and 13:

recording the address of the write operation in a log;
setting a flag to indicate an overrun of the log; and
invalidating the information if the flag is set.

Independent claim 1, as thus amended, comprises at least all of the limitations recited in independent claim 9, so independent claim 1 should now be allowable. The dependency of claim 3 has been switched from claim 2 to claim 1.

Similarly, independent claim 14 has been amended to incorporate the following limitations based upon those from claims 10, 12, and 13:

the first memory to record the address of the write operation in a log; and
a machine to set a flag to indicate an overrun of the log; and
the machine to invalidate the information if the flag is set.

Independent claim 14, as thus amended, comprises at least all of the limitations recited in independent claim 9, so independent claim 14 should now be allowable. Support for these amendments may be found, for example, on page 3, lines 4-21; on page 4, lines 7-12; and on page 7, lines 3-17.

Dependent claim 16 has been amended by substituting “first memory” for “memory”.

Similarly, independent claim 19 has been amended to incorporate the following limitations based upon those from claims 10, 12, and 13:

the first memory to record the address of the write operation in a log;
the processor to set a flag to indicate an overrun of the log;
the processor to invalidate the information if the flag is set;

Independent claim 19, as thus amended, comprises at least all of the limitations recited in independent claim 9, so independent claim 19 should now be allowable. Support for these amendments may be found, for example, on page 3, lines 4-21; on page 4, lines 7-12; and on page 7, lines 3-17.

Dependent claim 23 has been amended by substituting “first memory” for “memory” and by deleting “a” (second occurrence).

In summary, independent claims 1, 9, 14, and 19, as amended, should all be allowable. In addition, all claims that are dependent, directly or indirectly, from these independent claims should also be allowable.

Rejection of Claims 1-12 and 14-23
Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

In view of the amendments to the claims, and the foregoing remarks, the rejections of claims 1-12 and 14-23 under 35 U.S.C. §103 are respectfully asserted to be moot.

Conclusion

Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1, 3-9, 11, and 14-23 are in condition for allowance, and notification to that effect is earnestly requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone Applicants' attorney, Ann M. McCrackin (located in Minneapolis, Minnesota) at (612) 349-9592 or Applicants' below-signed attorney (located in Phoenix, Arizona) to facilitate prosecution of this application.

If necessary, please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0743.

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